

Joseph Smith & Balaam

Those that aren't familiar with the account of Balaam, start by reading Numbers 22. I pondered the similarities between these two figures, and here are some things that stick out to me:

Balaam

Joshua 13

22) Balaam also the son of Beor, the soothsayer, did the children of Israel slay with the sword among them that were slain by them. (**slain**)

2 Peter

14) Having eyes full of adultery (D&C 132 and **Smith having affairs with multiple women**), and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls (**do we believe what was said about him by BY and others who cooked the books?**): an heart they have exercised with **covetous practices (Kirtland Bank, Nauvoo plots, etc.)**; cursed children:)

15) Which have forsaken the right way (**abandoned the Book of Mormon**), and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness (**Smith wanted to sell the gold plates, and then the copyright, etc.**);

16) But **was rebuked** for his iniquity (**Book of Commandments 2 and 9**): the dumb [animal] speaking with man's voice forbad **the madness of the prophet** (**Smith was not a prophet, but for the sake of this thread we won't debate it further**).

17) These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever.

18) For when they speak great swelling words of vanity (**D&C, DHC, King Follet discourse, etc.**), they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness (**secret practice of polygamy/adultery, "law of consecration"**), those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

19) While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.

20) For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the **knowledge of** the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ (**gospel in the Bible and Book of Mormon**), they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

21) For **it had been better for them** not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. (**You name it...**)

Jude 1:11

Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

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Smith

2) ...although a man may have many revelations, and have power to do many mighty works, **yet**, if he boasts in his own strength, and **sets at nought the counsels of God, and follows after the dictates of his own will, and carnal desires, he must fall and incur the vengeance of a just God upon him** (Carthage).

3 Behold, you have been intrusted with these things, but **how strict** were your commandments; and remember, also, the promises which were made to you, **if** you did not transgress them; and behold, **how oft you have transgressed the commandments and the laws of God, and have gone on in the persuasions of men**: for behold, you should not have feared man more than God, although men set at naught the counsels of God, and despise his words, yet you should have been faithful and he would have extended his arm, and supported you against all the fiery darts of the adversary; and he would have been with you in every time of trouble.

4 Behold thou art Joseph, and thou wast chosen to do the work of the Lord, but because of transgression, **if thou art not aware thou wilt fall**, but remember God is merciful: Therefore, repent of that which thou hast done, and he will only cause thee to be afflicted for **a season**, and thou art still chosen, and wilt again be called to the work; and **except thou do this, thou shalt be delivered up and become as other men**, and have no more gift.

5 And when thou deliveredst up that which God had given thee sight and power to translate, thou deliveredst up that which was sacred, into the hands of a wicked man, who has set at nought the counsels of God, and has broken the most sacred promises, which were made before God, and has depended upon his own judgment, and boasted in his own wisdom, and this is the reason that thou hast lost thy privileges for a season, for **thou hast suffered the counsel of thy director to be trampled upon from the beginning**. -Book of Commandments (pp. 11-12).

I could go on... However, a brief observation: Balaam was a prophet and fell. He insisted his way was right even though he was warned by God to "Stop It". No man is exempt from not enduring to the end. There is no second comforter. There is no magical second washing and anointing to save Smith or anyone.

2 Nephi 28:8

And there shall also be many which shall say: Eat, drink, and be merry; nevertheless, fear God-he will justify in committing a little sin; yea, lie a little, take the advantage of one because of his words, dig a pit for thy neighbor; there is no harm in this; and do all these things, for

*tomorrow we die; and if it so be that we are guilty, God will beat us with a few stripes, **and at last we shall be saved in the kingdom of God.***

Matthew 7:15

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Matthew 7:20

Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.